

## Unemployment

- “Kentucky’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.7 percent for May was lower than the 5.8 percent recorded for April, according to the Department for Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency. In May 2002, the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also was 5.7 percent. The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate in May increased to 6.1 percent from 6 percent in April. Kentucky’s unemployment rate has either been 5.7 percent or 5.8 percent each of the past four months,” said Carlos Cracraft, the department’s chief labor market analyst. “May marked the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive month that Kentucky’s unemployment rate has been lower than the U.S. unemployment rate.”
- In EKCEP, the unemployment rate increased slightly (7.9% to 8.0%) from April 2003 to May 2003.

### KENTUCKY LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES PRELIMINARY MAY 2003

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		
				May 2003	April 2003	May 2002
<b>EKCEP</b>	<b>174,798</b>	<b>160,869</b>	<b>13,929</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Bell	9,871	9,122	749	7.6	7.6	7.4
Breathitt	4,135	3,751	384	9.3	10.7	9.5
Carter	11,742	10,555	1,187	10.1	8.2	12.2
Clay	8,026	7,429	597	7.4	8.4	10.8
Elliott	2,700	2,482	218	8.1	6.6	12.1
Floyd	13,999	12,984	1,015	7.3	7.4	5.9
Harlan	9,246	8,204	1,042	11.3	10.9	9.8
Jackson	6,923	6,624	299	4.3	5.0	5.2
Johnson	9,413	8,890	523	5.6	5.8	5.1
Knott	5,894	5,626	268	4.5	4.4	5.3
Knox	11,435	10,639	796	7.0	8.5	6.6
Lawrence	5,411	4,963	448	8.3	7.7	8.7
Lee	2,765	2,547	218	7.9	8.1	7.0
Leslie	4,410	4,024	386	8.8	8.4	7.4
Letcher	8,379	7,018	1,361	16.2	11.4	8.5
Magoffin	4,955	4,366	589	11.9	11.0	14.0
Martin	3,485	3,161	324	9.3	9.8	7.0
Menifee	3,169	3,036	133	4.2	7.9	4.9
Morgan	5,087	4,645	442	8.7	10.9	9.3
Owsley	1,894	1,776	118	6.2	6.6	5.2
Perry	11,808	10,860	948	8.0	7.7	7.3
Pike	26,946	25,272	1,674	6.2	6.4	5.3
Wolfe	3,105	2,895	210	6.8	7.3	5.7
Statewide*	1,993,270	1,883,966	109,304	5.5	5.6	5.5
U.S. Rate*				5.8	5.8	5.5

Source: Kentucky Department for Employment Services

\*The data contained in the charts above are not seasonally adjusted. County unemployment rates are comparable to the non-seasonally adjusted Kentucky statewide and U.S. unemployment rates in the chart above.

Unemployment in the EKCEP WIA  
1990 through 2003

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
1990	10.6%	10.4%	9.0%	8.9%	9.0%	8.9%	8.7%	8.6%	8.9%	9.5%	9.6%	10.2%	9.4%
1991	12.6%	13.5%	12.9%	13.0%	13.4%	13.9%	13.0%	12.6%	12.9%	12.8%	12.5%	13.4%	13.1%
1992	14.5%	14.4%	13.2%	12.6%	12.4%	13.2%	11.6%	11.2%	11.5%	11.1%	11.0%	11.1%	12.3%
1993	12.7%	12.6%	12.3%	12.4%	11.7%	11.9%	10.6%	9.8%	10.3%	10.0%	9.4%	9.5%	11.1%
1994	11.1%	11.2%	10.0%	9.8%	9.7%	10.3%	9.5%	9.2%	9.7%	9.4%	9.2%	9.2%	9.8%
1995	10.4%	11.2%	10.2%	9.7%	10.3%	11.7%	10.0%	10.3%	10.8%	10.4%	10.3%	10.2%	10.5%
1996	12.3%	11.8%	10.6%	10.2%	10.1%	10.6%	9.3%	9.6%	10.3%	10.6%	10.2%	9.7%	10.4%
1997	11.4%	10.8%	9.6%	9.4%	8.8%	9.8%	8.1%	8.2%	8.8%	8.8%	8.1%	7.8%	9.1%
1998	9.1%	9.1%	8.1%	7.3%	7.8%	8.3%	6.7%	6.7%	7.3%	7.1%	7.4%	7.3%	7.7%
1999	9.3%	9.2%	8.7%	8.5%	8.8%	9.0%	7.6%	7.4%	7.4%	7.7%	7.0%	7.2%	8.2%
2000*	8.4%	8.4%	7.5%	6.8%	7.0%	7.9%	6.9%	6.6%	6.8%	7.0%	6.9%	6.8%	7.3%
2001*	8.6%	8.5%	8.1%	7.3%	7.6%	7.7%	7.4%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.6%	6.3%	7.4%
2002*	8.5%	7.9%	7.8%	7.4%	7.6%	8.4%	7.7%	7.0%	7.0%	7.2%	7.6%	7.7%	7.6%
2003	9.0%	9.4%	8.6%	7.9%	8.0%								

Source: Kentucky Department for Employment Services

\* Data has been benchmarked

May 2003 data is preliminary

